

TO BE SEEN AT THE RICHMOND PLAY-HOUSES THIS WEEK

EMMETT CORRIGAN,
Leading Man.

GLADYS GRANGER.



FORREST WINANT.



R. L. GIFFEN.



HERMAN LIEB.

FRANCES NORDSTROM,
Leading Lady.

JAMES T. GALLOWAY.

PLAYBILLS FOR THE WEEK.

At the Academy.

Monday night—"The Wizard of the Nile."
Tuesday night, and Wednesday matinee and night, James T. Powers in "The Blue Moon."
Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, and Saturday matinee, the Giffen Stock Company in "Leah Kleschna."

At the Bijou.

All the week, with the usual matinee—"Arizona."

BY RUCE CHESTERMAN.

The Giffen Stock Company will open its season at the Academy next Thursday, when upon that evening, and for the remainder of the week, "Leah Kleschna" will be presented. The company is a very strong organization, and its membership indicates that Mr. Giffen will in no way lower the standard to which he adhered during the two seasons he gave Richmond theatre-goers productions, which for excellence of cast and sumptuous mounting had seldom been surpassed here, even by the best of road companies.

The leading man of the company is Mr. Emmett Corrigan, who is remembered for his splendid impersonation of Ben Hur. He is an actor of most convincing method, and is forceful and finished in his work. Another prominent member of the company is Mr. William E. Bonney, whose impersonation of Davis Ross in "The Eternal City" is still fresh in the memory of play-goers. Mr. Bonney has had important roles in many other big productions, his impersonation of the King in "The Palace of the King," and his Nero in "The Sign of the Cross," being among his best characterizations. The leading lady is Miss Frances Nordstrom, whose claim of personality and splendid ability as an actress, should at once place her in high favor with the patrons of the company. The others in the company have all been chosen with a due regard for their capability in the various lines of work for which they have been selected, the object being to form a perfect stock organization. They include James T. Galloway, Herman Lieb, Ralph Locke, Forrest Winant, Arthur Hurley, Miss Millicent Evans, Miss Clara Spanier, Miss Nelly Angell and Miss Elsie Granger. The productions this season will be made under the stage direction of Mr. George Foster Platt, who has many splendid achievements to his credit in New York, notably among them being the staging of "The Three of Us," "The Man on the Box," "The Prince Chap," and "Mrs. Temple's Telegram."

"Leah Kleschna," the play selected for the opening bill, is familiar to the Academy patrons, having been produced last season by the Fawcett Company the first week of its engagement. It is a strong drama, and is most appealing in its interest, commanding the closest attention of an audience. The presentation of this play will naturally invite a comparison as to the relative merits of the two companies and the two productions of the piece. The management may not have had this object in view, but one cannot help thinking if such was its intention (and Mr. Giffen is a very shrewd manager) that it was a master stroke, providing, of course, that the production next Thursday will be on a par with everything else this stock manager has put on in this city. And the very fact that "Leah Kleschna" is to be the opening bill would seem to suggest that Mr. Giffen is wearing a complacent smile in anticipation of the result.

The company next week will produce "The Man on the Box."

The company opens in Norfolk tomorrow in "Leah Kleschna," and will present the piece in that city the first half of the week. The piece has been rehearsed in New York, where Mr. Giffen has been for some time. Mr. Giffen will be in Richmond Tuesday, running up from Norfolk to give his personal attention to matters in connection with the opening here.

A matter of interest in connection with the plans of Mr. Giffen and Mr. Walls in regard to the spring and summer season is the fact that there will

JAMES T. POWERS,
in "The Blue Moon," at the Academy.

attractions that are booked through the South in the one-night stands.

On Easter Monday the Giffen Stock Company, which is to make Richmond its home during the spring and a portion of the summer, will open its season at the Academy, presenting "The Three of Us."

The company which is to appear here next Thursday, after its week and a half engagements at the Academy, will play Memphis, Atlanta, Chattanooga and Nashville in the order named, and

JAMES GREEN,
as Henry Canby, in "Arizona," at the Bijou this week.

will then return to Atlanta for its regular stock season in that city.

James T. Powers.

James T. Powers, in the big musical comedy success, "The Blue Moon," will be seen at the Academy Tuesday night and Wednesday matinee and night. The company is large and particularly clever, both from the singing and dancing standpoint, and the music will be heard to its best advantage through the medium of a greatly enlarged orchestra.

The story of the play concerns the happenings of a British regiment stationed in Central India, and the endeavor of several of the members of this organization to find a little English girl who has been kidnapped many years before. This is the principal theme of the play. Mr. Powers' part involves a secondary story. His actions during the entire play concern his endeavors to ingratiate himself into the graces of a young lady who demands



W. E. BONNEY.

NELLY ANGELL,
Character Woman.

ARTHUR HURLEY.

of her ideal that he be a hero, a soldier and an educationist. Powers' expressive face and his explosive little giggle, together with his many mannerisms, his peculiar voice, his ability as a dancer, and his rapidity of speech, all permit him in his performance to be a "thing of joy forever," as he has been termed.

He is ably assisted by Clara Palmer, who plays opposite to the star role. This young lady is a captivating actress, besides being the possessor of a very pleasing soprano voice.

"Arizona" at Bijou. "Arizona," by many claimed to be the greatest "American drama," will be at the Bijou this week. This drama is one of the most vivid pictures of Western life that has been given to the stage in many years, and being the work of a master playwright, is free from clagtrap melodrama, though it is intense and exciting in its scenes and situations.

Mr. Augustus Thomas, as is well known, is authority for the statement that his play, "Arizona," is in reality based on actual incidents. Mr. Thomas, several years ago, being in poor health, decided to visit on the ranch of a friend located in Arizona. While there several stories were afloat concerning the actions of a certain captain in the United States Cavalry and the wife of his colonel, who were located at the fort, about fifteen miles from the ranch. On investigation of these stories, the fertile brain of Mr. Thomas conceived the idea of writing a play, which would in the main take in the principal features of the principal party's actions. He immediately devoted his time to looking up all minor details of the life at Cavalry Fort, and also studied very carefully the people connected with his friend's ranch, not even excepting the ranchman himself, whom he has made the central figure of his charming play. That the idea was well worth the trouble to which Mr. Thomas was put is shown in the tremendous success which "Arizona" has achieved ever since its initial production.

The cast is a strong one. Joseph Green appears as Henry Canby, J. J. Hyland as Colonel Bonham, Edward J. Farrell as Lieutenant Denton, W. H. Gerald as the villainous Captain Hodgson, Irving J. Lancaster as Tony Montano, Virginia Pearson as the wife of Colonel Bonham, Alma Bradley as Bonita, Julia Morris as Lena Kellar, Jean Carson as Miss McClure, and Lizzie McCall as the excitable Mrs. Canby.

"Masque" Opens Monday Week.

Monday week, according to arrangements, will see the opening of "The Masque." The information at hand at this writing is to the effect that such will be the name of the remodeled playhouse at Eighth and Broad Streets, though there are some who say that the name will not be made known until it is flashed on Broad Street from the electric light sign over the new theatre.

The work of the decorators is now nearly completed, the scaffold will come down to-morrow, and the chairs,



CLARA SPANIER.

which are at the freight depot, will be placed in position by the latter part of the week. The house presents quite as pretty an appearance as it did when it was opened to the public in 1899. It is thoroughly equipped in every respect, and will be steam heated. Naudeville will be the bill, but the several acts have not yet been announced. In this connection, it may be interesting to mention the first bill, when the house was thrown open to the public nine years ago. The program that night contained the names of the Aherns, Joe and Nellie Damer, Joe Bonnell, Vinnie De Witt, Annie Hart, Blockson and Burns, and Press Eldridge.

It would seem quite appropriate for Master John McKee to ring up the curtain for the first time in the new house, or old house, as his father calls it. Master John was not much bigger than a good-sized bar of soap when he first came to Richmond, and was sometimes seen about the offices on the second floor of the building, in which were hatched the schemes that resulted in the chain of theatres that now extend over the entire South.

By the way, there is a probability that Mr. Wells' offices will be located on the second floor of the remodeled theatre (Masque doesn't come handy, yet.) One of the offices has been prepared in his favorite color—green.

Mr. Richards' Good Work. Mr. Harry S. Richards, one of the best fellows in the show business, was in the city last week. He is the business manager of the "Arizona" Company, and he has certainly secured a "showing" in this town. If the play don't break the Bijou records, it will not be his fault. And Mr. Richards wasn't so well while he was here, either.

To change an expression of, Mark



SCENE FROM "LEAH KLESCHNA."

CONDITIONS OF HACK-GOTCH "GO"

NEW YORK, March 21.—Conditions governing the wrestling match for the championship of the world between George Hackenschmidt and Frank Gotch at Chicago on April 30, declare that it shall be "straight catch-as-catch-can," with strangle hold barred. This is in line with the arrangements made for all matches during the past few years, and is another evidence that a genuine attempt is being made to eliminate a cause of unnecessary danger formerly associated with the sport. There can be no question concerning the brutality of the "strangle" holds. On many occasions in the past when "Strangler" Lewis and others made frequent use of them they caused unconsciousness, and once or two death resulted. They have long since been barred by the Amateur Athletic Union.

Decoration Day Race. NEW YORK, March 21.—The historic Irvington-Milburn, twenty-five-mile, bicycle race will be held on Decoration Day, May 30. The race will be held in the morning as usual, starting at 11 o'clock.

JIM TO ERECT A MONSTER ARENA

LOS ANGELES, CAL., March 21.—Jim Jeffries, the retired heavyweight champion, has grown tired of looking at ten-round bouts without decisions, and has secured an option on a piece of land just outside of the city limits, where he plans to erect a monster arena for the purpose of holding twenty-round battles. In speaking of his new scheme, Jeffries said: "I think these ten-round bouts at the Pacific A. C. are the biggest kind of jokes. They lead to many a fight between the spectators who bet on them, as there are no decisions given, and before the contest is half over there is considerable wrangling. I have backing from some of the richest men in Los Angeles, who are willing to put through my scheme for the new club and longer contests. I expect to go to Europe this summer. I want to take my wife over to Germany, but expect to have the arena ready by June. Now, if Burns and Johnson will mix about that time, I will referee the fight, but it will cost them \$5,000. Nothing less goes."

FLASHES FROM 'FRISCO.

"Abe" Attell, the featherweight champion, is \$1,400 loser to the horses. Jockey Gilbert's father owns a gold mine in Idaho.

"Dave" Campbell, promoter of the Salt Lake (Utah) race-track, is worth at least \$10,000,000.

"Tom" Williams, of the New California Jockey Club, says his Firestone will be a hard three-year-old to beat this summer.

"Izzy" Ham lost \$5,000 playing from the ground in five days and then "blew" for good old Benning.

Eastern turfmen won't know "Mose" Goldblatt when next he comes, for he had eleven gold teeth replaced by porcelain ones last week. Cost him \$219, too.

There will be seventy-four days at Seattle and sixty-two days at Butte this summer. Nathanson will be the "big fromage" at Seattle.

Jockey "Marvelous" Miller made \$11,000 here this winter. So the gossip says.

Out here in the West we are wondering what part "Big Tim" Sullivan played in the race-track war at Albany, N. Y.

Three big losers at Oakland are "Charley" Bowman, \$18,000; Emil Herz, \$21,000, and "Joe" Harlan, \$17,000.

The best two-year-olds in California are "Sam" Hildreth's Achieve, and J. J. Walsh's Lee Rose.

Bertram Lytell, leading man at the Alcazar Theatre, is one of the plugging sensations of the season.

Riley Granham and Ed. Purser, two old-time high-sky bettors, are teaming it at Oakland trying to make \$20 bets stand up.

The projected race-track at Salt Lake City, Utah, will cost upwards of \$350,000.

"Dynamite Jack" Thornby sold a half interest in Stoney Lee to "Jim" Jeffries last week for \$500.

Richard H. Burke, the Bronx turfman, left a fast two-year-old here before returning home, called Onions and Ale.

Mysterious Black Eye.

Tommy Burns is being rigged about a black eye which interfered with his last training for his fight with Jim Roche. Burns declined to make an explanation as to how he acquired his damaged optic, and various stories are current about it. One is that a local tough attacked the champion unexpectedly and was jolly well whipped for his pains. Another is that Tommy was the victim of an attempted hold-up.

I understand that Burns has decided not to go to France, but that he intends to start for home early next month and take on a fight with the negro, Johnson.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Three Nights, THURSDAY, March 26

BEGINNING

MATINEE SATURDAY.

JAKE WELLS and R. L. GIFFEN Present

THE

GIFFEN

COMPANY

IN THE EMPHATIC NEW YORK SUCCESS

LEAH KLESCHNA

By C. M. S. McLellan.

A SUPERB PRODUCTION

WITH A CAST OF SUPERIOR EXCELLENCE, including

Emmett Corrigan, W. E. Bonney, Forrest Winant, Herman Lieb, Ralph Locke, Arthur Hurley, Miss Frances Nordstrom, Miss Millicent Evans, Miss Clara Spanier, Miss Nelly Angell, Miss Elsie Granger.
--

Staged Under the Personal Direction of GEORGE FOSTER PLATT.
PRICES: 25c, 50c, 75c; Matinee, 25c, 50c.

BIJOU! Richmond's Popular Playhouse

Matinees Tues., Thurs., and Saturday

Hollis E. Cooley

Presents

America's

Greatest

Play

By Augustus

Thomas

Same

Great

Company

One Year Each

New York, Chicago,

London, England.

Grand Production

—Complete

ARIZONA

ACADEMY— Tuesday and Wednesday.

Wednesday Matinee

SAM S. & LEE SHUBERT (Inc.),

THE NORTH AMERICAN AMUSEMENT CO., Props.,

OFFER

JAMES T. POWERS

AND A BIG COMPANY, IN THE MERRY MUSICAL COMEDY SUCCESS

OF TWO CONTINENTS.

The Blue Moon.

20-BIG SONG HITS—20

A DREAM CHORUS.

Prices: Matinee, 25c to \$1. Night, 25c to \$1.50.

Just Arrived

Beautiful line of Mahogany Suits in exquisite designs.

Also large assortment of Brass Beds.

Special preparations are being made for supplying Furniture for spring and June brides.

Sydnor & Hundley, Inc.

Furniture Leaders

709, 711, 713 East Broad Street.

Slip Covers cut and made to order. Upholstering and Refinishing promptly done.